



NEWS RELEASE
*Office of the
United States Attorney
for the
District of Nebraska*
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May 5, 2010

United States Attorney Deborah R. Gilg and the Lincoln Police Department and Lancaster County Sheriff's Office announce the following information for the attention of the media:

Event Triggering this Release: The Honorable Richard G. Kopf sentenced Natalie Booth-Merica to 10 years in federal prison for conspiring to distribute 50 grams or more of a substance containing a detectable amount of methamphetamine in 2008. She was also ordered to complete four years of supervised release after serving her prison sentence

Evidence presented by the United States proved that Booth-Merica conspired with a number of individuals in the Lincoln area to distribute methamphetamine. On November 20, 2008, Booth-Merica sold methamphetamine to a confidential informant and an undercover narcotics officer from the Lincoln Police Department.

Name of Defendant: Natalie Nicole Booth-Merica

AKA: Booth

Age: 25

City of residence: Omaha

Crime(s) Charged and Potential Penalty (A CHARGE is merely an accusation and every defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty)

Conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine (substance)

five to 40 years prison, up to \$2,000,000 fine, not less than four years supervised release

Specific Location of Alleged Crime: Nebraska

Location of Arrest:

Alleged Dollar Loss/Type and Quantity of Drug: over 50 grams of methamphetamine

Others Charged in Same Scheme:

Relevant Dates:

Date of Alleged Crime: January 1 through December 31, 2008

Federal Arrest Date: May 26, 2009

Date Complaint Issued:

Indictment Returned Date: May 20, 2009

Initial Appearance Date: May 27, 2009

Plea or Trial and Date(s): pled January 15, 2010

Sentencing Date: May 4, 2010

Next Court Hearing Type and Date:

Assigned Magistrate Judge: David L., Piester

Held without Bond, or Released from Custody: released on conditions

In Continuous Custody Since:

Assigned District Court Judge: Richard G. Kopf

Initials of Assigned AUSA/Preparer of THIS Release: jml